

Dirty Secrets

Terry Kish

I have a confession to make. I'm not that good at recycling my trash.

Oh, I rinse my cans and jars and get them in the recycling container for pickup every other week; and in theory I like the idea of recycling my cardboard boxes, magazines, and junk mail. But when faced with the reality of actually finding a place to store that stuff and then loading it in my car and carting it to the self-serve paper recycling bin, I didn't have the motivation to do it.

This year, the Township has made changes in the curbside recycling collection that have me reconsidering my trash habits. Starting this past January, items that formerly had to be taken to the small Public Works parking lot on Truxton Drive are now being collected with the rest of the recyclables. Even better, they can all go in the same container!

For those who might have neglected to read the bright yellow 2009 Trash and Recycling Information booklet, single stream recycling started on January 2, 2009. Paper, cardboard, magazines, and newsprint may now be recycled in the

same curbside container as your other recyclables. Cardboard boxes should be empty and flattened, and tied in bundles no longer than 14 inches x 14 inches. Other than that, recycling in USC now involves nothing more than sorting it for pickup.

In addition to the new items collected curbside, all plastics #1 through #7 are being collected, as well as the usual aluminum, bi-metal, and steel food cans, and clear, green, and brown glass containers.

With the increase in items that can be recycled curbside, I've noticed a decrease in what's going in my regular trash, and a marked increase in my recyclables, so much so that I'll most likely need another bin.

The Township provides each household with one 32-gallon recycling bin, but additional bins are available at the Public Works Department on Truxton Drive for \$13 each. If you'd rather use your own container for additional recycling, recycling stickers to mark your bins are available at the Township Building on McLaughlin Run Road.

I guess 2009 is the year that I start to recycle more. Care to join me? ■

Go Green—Recycle

Curbside Collection

Following is a list of recyclables collected curbside every other week according to the 2009 Trash and Recycling Information booklet:

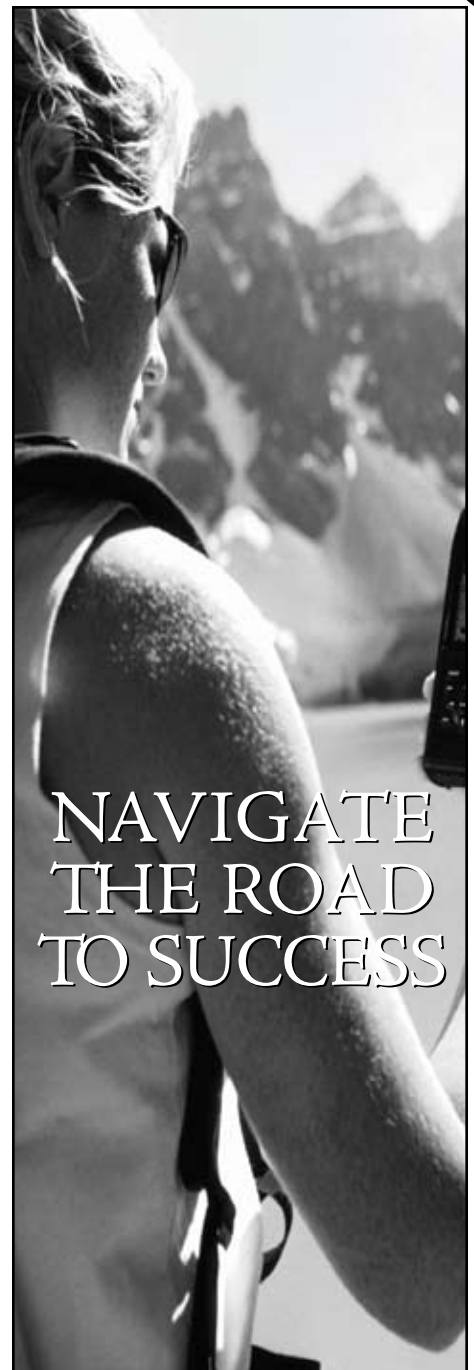
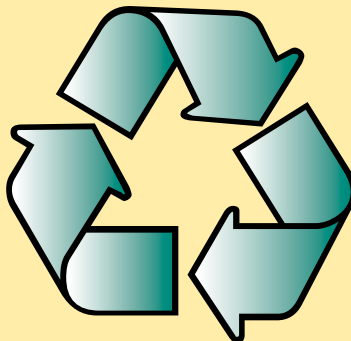
- Aluminum, bi-metal, steel food cans
- #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, and #7 plastics
- Clear, green, and brown glass containers
- Newsprint
- Cardboard boxes
- Magazines
- Paperback books
- White office paper
- Advertising inserts
- Catalogs
- Coupons and receipts
- Computer paper
- Junk mail
- Phone books
- Paper bags

Note: Rinse food containers. To save space, crush plastic and metal containers. Remove lids from jars. Flatten and tie or bundle cardboard to a size no larger than 14 inches by 14 inches. To help you to remember what you can recycle, clip and post this list to your fridge.

E-Cycling

The Township, in conjunction with JVS Environmental, will hold "e-cycling" events on the following three Saturdays: June 13, August 15, and September 19.

Collections will include, but not be limited to, computers, televisions, printers, copiers, fax machines, scanners, cell phones, telephones, dishwashers, ovens, gas grills, water heaters, furnaces, washers and dryers, stereos, radios, speakers, CD players, VCRs, automobile batteries, and household batteries. A nominal fee will be charged for most items.



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